

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 40-42, 70-89, and 107-134 are pending. Claims 1, 5-11, 40, 70, 107, and 108 have been amended, claims 12-39, 43-69, and 90-106 have been canceled, and new claims 109-134 have been added to recite additional features of the Applicant's invention.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-7, 11, 40, 41, 70-74 and 77-80 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) for being anticipated by the Torrey et al. patent. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites a method for communicating voice information, comprising receiving a call on a wireless phone and then connecting the call from the wireless phone to a hard-wired telephone. Claim 1 further recites that "the connecting step is automatically performed by connection management software programmed into the wireless phone in response to receiving the call."

The Torrey patent discloses a system for connecting a call from a wireless phone to a hard-wired telephone. This is accomplished by connecting the wireless phone to a premises station 110 as shown in Figure 1A. Unlike the claimed invention, however, all call connection management functions are performed by a premises converter 120 located between the premises station 110 and the hard-wired telephone. The Torrey patent, therefore, does not disclose automatically performing the connecting step of claim 1 "by connection management software programmed into the wireless phone in response to receiving the call." These differences are more clearly evident in the discussion which follows.

Operation of the Torrey premises converter 220 is described in detail at column 5 with reference to Figure 2A. Here, Torrey discloses that a call processor 223 within the premises converter performs all signaling exchange information functions required to connect the call between the wireless phone and a hard-wired telephone. (See, for example, column 5, lines 34-49). A more detailed description of the call connection functions performed by the premises converter is provided at column 5, line 50 - column 6, line 54 with reference to Figures 3A, 3B, 4A, and 4B.

Because the Torrey premises converter performs all connection management functions for connection a call between a wireless phone and a hard-wired telephone, the Torrey system does not disclose "wherein the connecting step is automatically performed by connection management software programmed into the wireless phone in response to receiving the call." Absent a disclosure of these features, it is respectfully submitted that the Torrey patent cannot anticipate claim 1. Applicant further submits that these differences are sufficient to render claim 1 and its dependent claims non-obvious and thus patentable over Torrey.

While it is unnecessary for purposes of establishing non-obviousness for the claimed invention to possess an advantage over the cited references, this situation certainly exists here.¹ For example, by requiring the use of a separate hardware component in the form of premises converter 120 (220 in other Figures), the Torrey system increases the amount of hardware and processing overhead required in order to connect a call between a wireless phone and hard-wired

¹ It is well established that in order to show non-obviousness, the claimed invention need not possess an advantage over the cited references, i.e., only one difference between the claimed invention and cited reference(s) is required to establish non-obviousness. See MPEP § 2143 *et seq.* Thus, while the advantages noted above make the invention preferable for use over the German circuit, they are not intended to be limiting of the invention as claimed.

telephone. The claimed invention overcomes these drawbacks by programing connection management software directly into the wireless phone. This not only increases the convenience of the user, but also substantially increase the portable aspects of the invention. For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentably distinguishable from the Torrey patent.

Claim 6 recites that the "connection management software detects a hook-state signal indicating that a receive of the hard-wired telephone has been activated and connects the call to the hard-wired telephone based on detection of the hook-state signal." The Torrey patent does not disclose these features. As shown in Figure 3A, the premises converter 120 of the Torrey system performs the functions of detecting a hook-state signal and connecting the call between a wireless phone and a hard-wired telephone. These functions, however, are not performed by connection management software stored in the wireless phone and thus the features of claim 6 are not disclosed in the Torrey patent. It is respectfully submitted that these additional differences are sufficient to render claim 6 non-obvious and thus patentable over the Torrey patent.

Claim 7 recites that the "connection management software detects termination of the call based on a hook-state signal indicating that the receiver of the hard-wired telephone has been de-activated." The Torrey patent does not discloses these features. As shown in Figure 3B, all call termination processing is performed by the premises converter of the Torrey system, not by connection management software programmed into a wireless phone. It is respectfully submitted that these differences further establish the allowability of claim 7 over the Torrey patent.

Claim 11 recites that the connecting step of claim 1 is performed "based on authorization information stored on a smart card." The Torrey patent does not disclose these features.

Claim 40 recites features similar to those which patentably distinguish claim 1 from the Torrey patent. Specifically, claim 40 recites that the connecting step "is automatically performed by connection management software programmed into the wireless device in response to receive the call." The Torrey patent does not disclose these features and thus cannot anticipate claim 40 or any of its dependent claims. It is further submitted that these differences are sufficient to render claim 40 and its dependent claims non-obvious and thus patentable over Torrey.

Claim 70 recites a personal communication system, comprising a wireless device including a voice communication port and an interface unit which includes a connector that mates with the voice communication port of the wireless device. Claim 70 further recites that "the wireless device is programmed with connection management software which automatically connects a call received by the wireless device to the hard-wired telephone through the connector." The Torrey patent does not disclose these features and thus cannot anticipate claim 70 or any of its dependent claims. It is further submitted that these differences are sufficient to render claim 70 and its dependent claims non-obvious and thus patentable over Torrey.

Claim 73 recites that the wireless device includes "a processor which detects a hook-state signal indicating that a receiver of the hard-wired telephone has been activated, and connects the call to the hard-wired telephone based on detection of the hook-state signal." The Torrey patent does not disclose these features. As previously discussed, premises convertor 120 performs all call connection management functions in the Torrey system, including detection of a hook-state signal from the hard-wired telephone. See Figure 3A. Based on these differences, it is respectfully submitted that the Torrey patent can neither anticipate nor render obvious claim 73.

Claim 74 recites that the wireless device processor "detects termination of the call based on a hook-state signal indicating that the receiver of the hard-wired telephone has been deactivated." As shown in Figure 3B, call termination is performed by call processor 223 and premises converter 220, not by connection management software stored in the wireless device. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 74 is patentably distinguishable from the Torrey patent.

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 81, 82, 84, and 86 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on a combination of the Torrey and Fintel patents. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 4 depends from claim 1. Therefore, in order to render claim 4 obvious, the Fintel patent must teach or suggest the features of claim 1 missing from the Torrey patent. The Fintel patent was cited for disclosing connecting a hard-wired telephone to receive calls through a public-switched telephone network. The Fintel patent does not teach or suggest "wherein the connecting step is automatically performed by connection management software programmed into the wireless phone in response to receiving the call" as recited in claim 1. Absent a teaching or suggestion of these features, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is patentable distinguishable from a Torrey-Fintel combination at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 1.

Claims 81, 82, 84, and 86 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 70, which recites that the wireless device "is programmed with connection management software which automatically connects a call received by the wireless device to the hard-wired telephone through the connector." The Torrey and Fintel patents do not teach or suggest these features and accordingly cannot render claim 70 obvious. It is therefore submitted that claims 81, 82, 84, and

86 are patentably distinguishable from a Torrey-Fintel combination at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 70.

More specifically, Fintel does not teach or suggest the connection management software recited in claim 70. Instead, all connections between the wire telephone network and the cellular phones are performed by control software stored in the docking station, not in the cellular phones. Accordingly, Fintel fails to make up for the deficiencies of the Torrey Patent with respect to the invention defined in claim 70.

The Examiner rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over a combination of the Torrey and DePani patents. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 8 depends from claim 1. In order to render claim 8 obvious, the DePani patent must therefore teach or suggest the features of claim 1 missing from the Torrey patent. The DePani patent was cited for its disclosure of confirming the validity of a dialed telephone number. DePani, however, does not teach or suggest "wherein the connecting step is automatically performed by connection management software programmed into the wireless phone in response to receiving the call." Absent a teaching or suggestion of these features, it is respectfully submitted that a Torrey-DePani combination cannot render claim 1 obvious. Moreover, it is submitted that claim 8 is patentable distinguishable from a Torrey-DePani combination at least by virtue of dependency from claim 1.

Claim 8 separately recites that the telephone number validation steps (a)-(c) are performed by the connection management software in the wireless phone. The DePani patent does not teach or suggest these features. Instead, DePani discloses that an intermediate processor 10 performs the telephone number validation process. It is respectfully submitted that these

differences further establish the non-obviousness of claim 8 over a Torrey-DePani combination.

Claim 9 depends from claim 8 and therefore is also allowable over the cited combination.

The Examiner rejected claims 11 and 88 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious based on a Torrey-Pfundstein combination. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

The Pfundstein patent discloses an authorization card in a form of a smart card which stores a mobile subscriber ID number. Before a caller can connect to a mobile communication system, a user must present the smart card for validation. While Pfundstein discloses limiting authorized access to a mobile communication system based on information on a smart card, it does not teach or suggest conditionally performing the connecting step recited in claim 1 based on authorization stored in the smart card. Furthermore, Pfundstein does not teach or suggest the connection management software recited in claim 1.

Based on at least these differences, it is submitted that claim 11 is allowable over a Torrey-Pfundstein combination. Claim 8 is submitted to be distinguishable on similar grounds.

The Examiner rejected claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over a combination of the Torrey and Fuentes patents. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 42 depends from claim 40. Claim 40 recites "the connecting stub is automatically performed by connection management software programmed into the wireless device in response to receiving the call." The Fuentes patent was cited for its disclosure of using a radio channel to connect a wireless device to a land-based telephone station. Fuentes, however, does not teach or suggest the features which distinguish claim 1 from the Torrey patent. Accordingly,

it is submitted that claim 42 is allowable over a Torrey-Fuentes combination at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 40.

The Examiner rejected claims 75 and 76 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over a combination of the Torrey, Kweon, and DePani patents. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claims 75 and 76 ultimately depend from claim 70. As previously discussed, none of the patents forming the Examiner's combination teach or suggest "wherein the wireless device is programmed with connection management software which automatically connects a call received by the wireless device to the hard-wired telephone through the connector. " Absent of teaching or suggestion of these features, it respectfully submitted that claims 75 and 76 are allowable over the cited combination, at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 70.

The Examiner rejected claim 83 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over a combination of the Torrey, Fintel, and Kazemzadeh patents. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 83 ultimately depends from claim 70. The Kazemzadeh patent was cited for its disclosure of sending a missed call signal to a hard-wired telephone when the call sent to the hard-wired telephone is terminated. This patent, however, does not teach or suggest the features of claim 70 missing from the Torrey and Fintel patents. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 83 is allowable over the cited combination at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 70.

The Examiner rejected claim 85 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious based on a combination of the Torrey, Fintel, and Numminen et al. patents. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 85 ultimately depends from claim 70. The Numminen patent was cited for its disclosure of manually controlling an activation state of a plurality of connectors. Numminen, however, does not teach or suggest the features of claim 70 missing from the Torrey and Fintel patents. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 85 is allowable over the cited combination at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 70.

The Examiner rejected claim 87 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious of a combination of the Torrey, Fintel, Numminen, and Suikkola patents. Claim 87 ultimately depends from claim 70. The Suikkola patent does not teach or suggest the features of claim 70 missing from the Torrey, Fintel, and Numminen patents. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 87 is allowable over the cited combination at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 70.

The Examiner rejected claim 89 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over a combination of the Torrey and Dohrmann patents. Claim 89 depends from claim 70. The Dohrmann patent does not teach or suggest the features of claim 70 missing from the Torrey patent, accordingly, it is submitted that claim 89 is allowable over the cited combination at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 70.

The Examiner rejected claims 107 and 108 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over a Torrey-Kweon combination. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 107 recites a hard-wired telephone, comprising a key pad, a wireless communication unit, a memory unit, and a processor. The memory unit stores activation information input through the key pad. The processor automatically sets the wireless communication unit to receive a call from a wireless service provider at a changeable wireless phone user telephone number. The processor performs this automatic setting function in

response to receiving the activation information through the key pad. The Torrey and Kweon patents do not teach or suggest the functions performed by the processor of claim 107.

More specifically, as previously discussed all connection management functions in the Torrey system are performed by premises converter 120 (220 in Figure 2A). The Torrey patent, thus, does not teach or suggest a processor inside a hard-wired telephone which sets a wireless communication units inside the hard-wired telephone to receive a call from a wireless service provider at a changeable wireless phone user telephone number. The invention of claim 107, therefore, allows, for example, a guest at a hotel room or another location to configure a hard-wire telephone to receive and place calls based on the user's cell phone which the user may not even have to have with them. The Torrey patent does not teach or suggest these features, and neither does the Kweon patent, which merely discloses a buffer for storing a telephone number.

Based on at least the foregoing differences, it is respectfully submitted that claim 107 is allowable over a Torrey-Kweon. Claim 108 recites features similar to those which patentable distinguish claim 107 from the cited combination. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 108 is also allowable.

New claims 109-134 have been added to the application. None of the features recited in these new claims are taught or suggested by any of the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 109 recites “wherein the connection management software converts an operational mode of the wireless phone from a standard operating mode to an interface mode for connecting calls between the wireless phone and hard-wired telephone.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 110 recites that “the processor automatically performs said conversion in response to a detection signal indicating that the wireless phone is connected to an interface unit between the wireless phone and hard-wired telephone.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claims 111 and 112 recites features similar to those in claims 109 and 110, but depending from claim 40. None of these features are taught or suggested by the cited references.

Claim 113 recites that “the connection management software receives a mode signal from said determining means indicative of said mating and then automatically converts an operational mode of the wireless device to interface mode for connecting calls between the wireless device and the hard-wired telephone.” None of these features are taught or suggested by the cited references.

Claim 114 recites that the determining means includes “a stud on the interface unit and a function button on the wireless device which is activated by contact from the stud when the voice communication port of the wireless device is mated with the connector of the interface unit.” None of these features are taught or suggested by the cited references.

Claim 115 recites that the determining means includes “a first electrode on the interface unit and a second electrode on the wireless device, wherein the second electrode contacts the first electrode when the voice communications port of the wireless device is mated with the connector of the interface unit, and then sends a mode signal to the connection management software for connecting calls between the wireless device and hard-wired telephone.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 116 recites that the determining means includes a detector which detects when the voice communications port of the wireless device mates with the connector of the interface

unit, and then sends a mode signal to the connection management software for connecting calls between the wireless device and hard-wired telephone. None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 117 recites that the detector is located in the wireless device. None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 118 recites that the “authorization information includes at least the wireless phone user telephone number.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claims 119 recites that the “processor re-configures the wireless communications unit to receive a call at a different wireless phone user telephone number when different authorization information is received through the keypad.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 120 recites that the “processor re-configures the wireless communications unit in response to activation of a mode button.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 121 recites that the “processor overwrites the different authorization information over the previously stored authorization information in the memory unit.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 122 recites that “the different authorization information includes at least the different wireless phone user telephone number.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 123 recites that the “authorization information includes a user identification code.” None of the cited reference teach or suggest these features.

Claim 124 recites that the “processor receives time-of-activation information entered through the keypad and automatically sets the wireless communications unit to receive a call from the wireless service provider at the changeable wireless telephone user number based on said time-of-activation information.” None of the cited reference teach or suggest these features.

Claim 125 recites that the “time-of-activation information indicates a predetermined daily time schedule.” None of the reference teach or suggest these features.

Claim 126 recites that the “processor de-activates the wireless communications unit to receive calls at the changeable wireless telephone user number during times other than specified in the time-of-activation information.” None of the cited reference teach or suggest these features.

Claim 127 recites that “a display for displaying at least one of the changeable wireless telephone user number and said time-of-activation information.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 128 recites that “the processor automatically displays information prompting a user to enter the activation information when a handset of the telephone is picked up.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 129 recites “a wireless communications unit, a reader that reads authorization information from a removable storage medium, a processor for automatically setting the wireless communications unit to receive a call from a wireless service provider at a changeable wireless phone user telephone number, said processor automatically setting the wireless communications unit based on the authorization information read by the reader.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 130 recites that the “authorization information includes at least the changeable wireless phone user telephone number.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 131 recites that the “authorization information includes a user identification code.” None of the cited reference teach or suggest these features.

Claim 132 recites that the “authorization information includes a serial number.” None of the cited reference teach or suggest these features.

Claim 133 recites that the “authorization information includes location information.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Claim 134 recites that the “authorization information includes information which the wireless service provider or a local exchange carrier needs to activate operation of a wireless phone.” None of the cited references teach or suggest these features.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all the rejections and objections made by the Examiner is hereby respectfully requested.

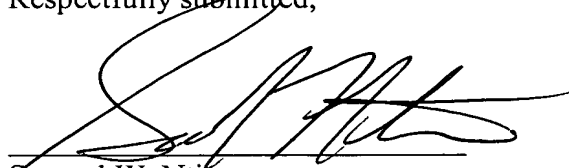
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that further amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a personal interview would be advantageous in order to more expeditiously resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Serial No. 09/876,049

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Ntiros', written over a horizontal line.

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